

Office Memorandum • UNITED STATES GOVERNMENT 1/B, 5, 28/3

TO : Mr. R. L. Bannerman

DATE: 14 December 1950

FROM : Mr. Morse Allen

SUBJECT: Special Training

Reference is made to our recent conversation regarding training of B staff members in hypnotic methods as an essential background to future S. I. work.

In this connection, it may be recalled that [redacted] formerly of I & S, took a special short course in hypnosis from a so-called [redacted] who [redacted]

[redacted] attended from the end [redacted]

A special investigation was run on [redacted] prior to [redacted] taking the course, which disclosed that in many ways [redacted] character; however, judging solely upon results achieved in [redacted] an unsavory case, the course apparently is successfully taught.

In connection with the above, a parallel investigation turned up the name of one [redacted] a professional hypnotist [redacted] who bears an excellent reputation both professionally and ethically. However, the investigative report did not disclose whether [redacted] taught hypnotism or would teach hypnotism for a fee.

Since time is the essence in this operation, it is felt that (along the lines of your original suggestion) two B staff members should be authorized to secure from [redacted] this special short course [redacted] starting as soon as possible [redacted] using what ever cover is necessary.

It is suggested that if possible [redacted] and [redacted] be designated to take this course.

It is furthermore suggested that immediately upon completion of this course, [redacted] recommendations to the Deputy Chief, I & S, Mr. Bannerman and to Mr. Allen of the B project, as to whether or not in their opinion [redacted] course gives the required background for this work.

In the event of a favorable recommendation by [redacted] and [redacted] as set out above, this project will immediately designate other staff members for this special course. However, if the recommendation is unfavorable, it is suggested that immediate steps be taken to ascertain if [redacted] will teach hypnotism and under what circumstances this could be arranged.

MORSE ALLEN